

Ethics and accountability, because we need transparency in our government. We need to obey the rules, observe the norms. That is critical to have trust in government on the part of the people.

And lastly, campaign finance reform, because big money and special interests have way too much influence up here on Capitol Hill, and we need to do something about it.

We can do this. With a bold set of reforms, we can make sure that Americans feel respected, and we can return, finally, to a government of, by, and for the people.

#### THANKING CAPTAIN SWEATTE AND MICHAEL SULLIVAN

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Raymond Sweatte and Mr. Michael Sullivan, the crew of the University of Georgia Skidaway Institute of Oceanography's ship, the *Savannah*.

While Captain Sweatte and Mr. Sullivan were on the *Savannah* conducting a research-based fish survey just off the coast of Georgia, they were contacted by the Coast Guard about a nearby ship in distress.

After searching multiple locations in the nighttime darkness, the *Savannah* located and saved two Florida fishermen struggling to cling to their lives.

The fishermen had been taking on water for about 5 hours in high seas and winds and could not keep up with the water flowing into the ship.

If the *Savannah* had not located and rescued these struggling fishermen, it is possible they would not have survived.

I sincerely thank the University of Georgia's Captain Sweatte and Mr. Sullivan for their bravery and heroic actions in this emergency situation to save the lives of two fellow Americans.

#### AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN EN- GROSSMENT OF H.R. 6157, DE- PARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPRO- PRIATIONS ACT, 2019

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent in the engrossment of the bill, H.R. 6157, the Clerk be authorized to make technical corrections and conforming changes, including inserting amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 115-785 at the end of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

#### PRESIDENT TRUMP'S CORRECTIVE ORDER

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Donald Trump's "corrective" order no longer separating children from parents takes families out of the fire of separation and throws them into the inferno of unlimited detention on military bases. Thus Trump's zero tolerance policy stands, costing the government untold millions required to be spent for meals, air conditioning, libraries, private showers, medical, dental, and mental health.

There are no good options when families enter the country seeking asylum, but herding them together in internment camps is the worst of those available.

That is why past administrations have released the detainees with ankle bracelets and frequent contacts, with the overwhelming majority of detainees reporting back. The courts are likely to order a similar remedy.

It is time for the administration to look at practices that have worked instead of inventing inhumane ones that don't.

#### SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF IRAN

(Mr. LAMBORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the people of Iran, who are sick and tired of living under the mullahs' rule and have courageously taken to the streets across their country to demand freedom and sound governance.

The Ayatollah's regime duped the Obama administration into a nuclear deal in which they received a tremendous payout. The people of Iran expected to benefit financially from the deal, but the regime squandered everything on foreign wars at the expense of their citizens.

The Islamic regime funds the ongoing deadly tactics of Hamas and the Palestinians, supports Bashar al-Assad of Syria, finances the ongoing war in Yemen, builds rocket factories in Lebanon and Syria, and I could go on and on.

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are ideals that America champions, the same ideals that the Iranian protestors are risking their lives to achieve.

To this end, I support the Iranian people, as do the Trump administration and the free world.

#### THE WAR ON COAL IN MONTANA

(Mr. GIANFORTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring this body's attention to a war on coal that jeopardizes our Montana communities, jobs, and economy.

Environmental extremists want to eliminate the diversity of Montana's

energy generation. Their radical agenda threatens our Montana way of life, particularly in eastern Montana.

This week, the Montana Chamber Foundation released a report that reveals the alarming impact a continued war on coal would have in Montana.

If Colstrip's Units 3 and 4 were closed prematurely, the impact would be devastating to Montana. Montana would lose about 3,300 jobs. Our State's population would shrink by 7,000 individuals. Montanans would lose over \$5 billion in income and all Montanans would face higher electricity prices. Also, the loss of this source of reliable baseload power would threaten the stability of our electric grid.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to end this war on coal once and for all. Montanans, our communities, and our economy require that we not raise the white flag.

#### CONDEMNING THE BRUTAL PERSE- CUTION OF THE SINDHI PEOPLE

(Mr. ROHRABACHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the brutal persecution of the Sindhi people in Pakistan.

Throughout the Sindh Province, and especially in Karachi, millions of Sindhi people are victimized by the Punjabi-dominated regime in Islamabad.

This grave injustice and massive human rights crisis involves extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, and tactics common in many totalitarian dictatorships.

This oppression of the Sindhis is the work of the Inter-Services Intelligence, that is the ISI, of Pakistan, and the corrupt Pakistani Army.

More than 154 Sindhi people have been reported missing just since August 2017. Among those includes Dr. Anwar Laghari, who is a physician who actually led the Sindhi people and the stalwarts in opposition to violent Islamic militarism, and that is why he was targeted by the ISI.

Pakistan has made their choice to drop its alliance with the United States and form a new partnership with China and radical Islam, and they are now making war on their own people.

The United States should stand with the people of Pakistan, not their oppressive government.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the brutal persecution of the Sindhi people in Pakistan. Throughout Sindh Province and especially in Karachi, millions of Sindhi people are victimized by the Punjabi dominated regime in Islamabad.

This is a grave injustice and a massive human rights crisis involving extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, and tactics common in China, Turkey, Iran and other totalitarian dictatorships.

This oppression of the Sindhis is the work of the Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI) and the corrupt Pakistan Army.

More than 154 Sindhi people have been reported missing just since August 2017. Among the hundreds abducted and killed include Dr. Anwar Laghari, a physician and human rights leader who is a hero to the Sindhi people. Like Dr. Laghari the Sindhis are stalwarts in their opposition to violent Islamist militants, which is why they have been targeted by ISI.

Pakistan has made its choice to drop its alliance with the United States and form a new partnership with China and radical Islam. Blatant betrayals like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project and sheltering Osama Bin Laden indicate that Pakistan has long ago morphed away from being our friend and is now our enemy.

And, Pakistan is at war with its own people, not only the Sindhis, but the Baluch and many of the Pashtun tribes are also targeted for harsh human rights abuses. America needs to face reality—stand with these persecuted peoples—and treat Pakistan like the corrupt narco-trafficking gangster regime allied with radical Islam that it is.

#### ATROCITIES CONTINUE IN SYRIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIANFORTE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KINZINGER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, there is really a tragic situation that has been unfolding for a long time in Syria, and I think it is important that we have a brief discussion today about what is at stake and what is happening.

To start that discussion, Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), the honorable chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and a champion for the people of Free Syria.

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Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate the time that has been set aside here, and I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

I have got to say at the outset, one of the great tragedies of the half a million deaths in Syria is that I think it was quite avoidable.

If we think back to 7 years ago and how it started, it began with people marching in the streets of Damascus saying, "peaceful, peaceful." Their goal was to try to get some element of human rights in a country in which people were being abducted and disappeared in these chambers where they were tortured and killed.

We know a lot more now than we did at the time because of a brave military photographer by the name of Caesar, and Caesar brought those pictures out to the West, 55,000 of them.

The way in which the regime conducted itself drove the population in Syria to react. And now, after 7 years of war, brutal war, the atrocities continue in Syria; and in many ways, after listening this morning to Caesar and seeing his photographs again, they are worse than they were.

I say that because, as we speak, despite a ceasefire agreed to by Russia,

the Assad regime, backed by Russian war planes and backed by the Iranian militia from neighboring Iran on the ground, is engaged in a brutal assault on southern Syria. They are engaged there, and more than 45,000 civilians have fled as Russian and regime forces have intensified their shelling and their air raids again on civilian populations.

So yesterday alone, three hospitals were bombed. The United Nations has said that more Syrians were displaced in the first few months of this year than at any period in the last 7 years of war—the first few months of this year. This is happening as we speak.

This is one of the children affected by this brutal campaign. The numbers are staggering. As I shared with you, there are over half a million Syrians that have been killed. Think for a minute about the families of those who are on the move trying to escape. Fourteen million Syrians have been displaced; tens of thousands remain in the regime's dungeons.

That, for me, is the most horrifying aspect of this. It is because the regime will not, despite international pressure, change what it does within those dungeons, the same torture that was exposed to the world in the Caesar photos, in the 55,000 photos.

And the horrific part of this—I don't know why totalitarian regimes do this, but they have a habit of taking the picture of every tortured, mangled body that they have killed and then numbering it with a number, and then number after number after number. It is now a process of civil society in Syria trying to figure out and tie these families together.

And the population that was massacred, whether it is Shia or Sunni or Alawites or Christian, it is as though the regime knows no bounds in terms of its suspicions. It is like Joe Stalin's rampage when he decided, in the 1930s, to begin his process of eliminating anyone who could potentially be an opponent: take them in and put them to the torture.

That is what is happening as we speak. And if the regime retakes southern Syria, thousands more will be detained and meet the same fate as those who are in those torture chambers today.

So this morning, we had the honor of welcoming Caesar. ADAM KINZINGER and I and other members of our committee had the opportunity once more to speak to the Syrian military defector who took those photos.

Four years ago, he met with our committee in his first public appearance following his defection. Those photos gave us an eyewitness account of the Assad regime's horrific brutality. And today, Caesar provided new, chilling testimony about the Assad regime's attacks against the Syrian people.

Industrial-scale torture, as I have told you, is being committed against thousands of detainees. And I will tell you, one picture that especially moved

me showed a young woman. She was an architect in the city. She had had her eyes gouged out. She was tortured to death and her crime was that she had delivered food and humanitarian aid to individuals targeted by the Assad regime.

As you know, the Blue Helmets in Syria who run into collapsing buildings in order to pull out victims, pull out civilians, they are nondenominational. These are people who volunteer, and they are frequently targeted. It is often those who are doing the rescuing who are targeted by that regime.

Mr. Speaker, as I have said before, there can be no real peace in Syria as long as the Assad regime, as long as Assad, himself, remains in power. We need a strategy that, in the name of humanity, moves beyond Assad to achieve a political solution that will secure a lasting peace among all of the parties there.

The House has twice passed legislation named after Caesar, sponsored by Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL and me, to impose sanctions on supporters of Syria's Assad regime, including sanctions on Iran and Russia, because that is where the materiel comes from. That is where the bombs come from. This legislation will help cut off funding that fuels Assad's war machine, and it gives our diplomats much-needed leverage in the political process.

Additionally, the Caesar bill will support the prosecution of the regime's war criminals. This includes U.S. assistance for cases being tried around the world, many based on evidence in the Caesar file, such as the one recently filed by prosecutors in Germany.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the Senate still has not acted on this critical legislation. It is time to sanction Assad. It is time to sanction his backers. It is time to hold war criminals accountable and give justice to victims.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to quickly move forward. Please move this legislation to help protect Syrian civilians.

Again, I want to thank my colleague not only for his efforts and for his service to this country, including on the battlefield, but also for his service here today in the interest of humanity.

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman for his leadership on this issue and for his very eloquently delivered speech on the seriousness of what is happening.

The Syrian civil war is now in its eighth year, and it is approaching a very serious crossroad. While the media focus fades away after some chemical attack or a picture that steals our hearts for a moment, the war crimes being committed and the atrocities taking place in Syria are happening in full force right this very minute.

For the last 9 days, the southern border of Syria has been under constant bombardment from airstrikes and barrel bomb attacks. Despite a ceasefire